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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/518,222      Confirmation No.: 5724  
Applicant(s): DiRusso et al.  
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Art Unit: 3739  
Examiner: Kasztejna, Matthew John  
Title: Flexible Endoscope  
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Customer No.: 29,683

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Information Disclosure Statement

(37 C.F.R. §1.97(c))

Sir:

The following information is being disclosed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

Applicant's Attorney is aware of the art cited on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the non-U.S. patent art are enclosed with the Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's use. The art was cited in a European Search Report mailed March 26, 2009; a Japanese patent application Office Action mailed March 3, 2009; and a Japanese patent application Office Action mailed February 17, 2009. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed. Also enclosed are English language translations of the two Japanese patent application Office Actions.

- ☒ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement, or
- ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The filing of this Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made regarding the claimed invention (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)) or that no other possible material information exists. In addition, the filing of this Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)).

Respectfully submitted,

Mark F. Harrington 4/24/09  
Mark F. Harrington (Reg. No. 31,686) Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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